



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Johnny Key, Commissioner

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CONTACT: Kimberly Friedman

PHONE: (501) 683-4788

kimberly.friedman@arkansas.gov

14 Selected as 2018 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Regional Finalists

LITTLE ROCK — Fourteen outstanding teachers have been named 2018 Arkansas Teacher of the Year Regional Finalists.

Gov. Asa Hutchinson and Arkansas Department of Education Commissioner Johnny Key will recognize the regional finalists at 10 a.m. Aug. 30, 2017, in the Old Supreme Court room at the Capitol. During the ceremony, the four state semi-finalists will be announced.

“I am excited for the opportunity to recognize these dynamic Arkansas teachers as regional finalists through our Arkansas Teacher of the Year program,” Key said. “As we work to transform Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education, we must recognize and celebrate teachers who have demonstrated educational excellence. I am extremely proud of these regional finalists and for the example they have set for their students, colleagues and future educators.”

2018 ATOY Regional Finalists

Kim Armstrong

Grades K-2 Science

Wynne Primary School

Wynne School District

Crowley's Ridge Educational Service Cooperative

Brittany Berry

Grades 6-7 EAST

Helen Tyson Middle School

Springdale School District

Northwest Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

Cameron Blackwood

Grades 10-12 Science

Clarendon High School

Clarendon School District

Great Rivers Education Service Cooperative

Brandy Browning

Grade 9 Science

Magnolia Junior High School

Magnolia School District

South Central Service Cooperative

Kirby Childress

Grade 6 Math

Pinkston Middle School

Mountain Home School District

Northcentral Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

Anne Formby

Grades 10-12 Math

Arkansas High School

Texarkana Arkansas School District

Southwest Arkansas Education Cooperative

Shannon Holeyfield

Grade 9 English and Grades 9-12 Yearbook

Searcy High School

Searcy School District

Wilbur D. Mills Education Service Cooperative

Judy Holland

Grade 9 English and Grades 9-12 Alternative Learning Environment

Walnut Ridge High School

Lawrence County School District

Northeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

Randi House

Kindergarten

Theodore Jones Elementary School

Conway School District

Arch Ford Education Service Cooperative

Amanda Jones

Grades 10-12 Science

Poyen High School

Poyen School District

Dawson Education Cooperative

Beth Maris

Grades 10-12 Science

Central High School

Little Rock School District

Pulaski County

Mollie Sanford

Grades 10-12 Family and Consumer Science
Dumas New Tech High School
Dumas School District
Southeast Arkansas Education Service Cooperative

Tasha Shoate

Grade 3
Cavanaugh Elementary School
Fort Smith School District
Guy Fenter Education Service Cooperative

Morgan Wilson

Grades 10-12 Math
Sheridan High School
Sheridan School District
Arkansas River Education Service Cooperative

The Arkansas Teacher of the Year program is part of the National Teacher of the Year program and recognizes exceptional teachers who demonstrate strong teaching and leadership skills. This year's regional finalists will receive a \$1,000 award, with the Arkansas Teacher of the Year receiving an additional \$14,000. The awards are made possible by a grant provided by the Walton Family Foundation, a long-time supporter of the program.

After the four state semi-finalists are announced at the ceremony Aug. 30, the selection committee will conduct site visits. During the visits, the committee will observe the teacher in the classroom and interview the teacher and school administrators. A surprise notification announcing the 2018 Arkansas Teacher of the Year will be held later this fall.

In addition to the recognition ceremony, a reception for the regional finalists will be held in Room 207 at the Capitol immediately following the ceremony. Several State Board of Education members plan to attend the events, but no official business will be conducted.

To learn more about the ATOY program, go to
<http://www.arkansased.org/divisions/communications/teacher-of-the-year>.

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